7. Lowering of the commutation rate of paddy in the case of Sirkar Devaswam tenants and the grant of substantial concession to tenants of the Estates under Sirkar management.

(b) Government will watch the result of the measures already taken before proceeding further.

Scheme to scale down Agricultural debts—resolution regarding.

37. Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*—Will the Government state why they have not carried out the resolution contained in the resolution passed by this House on the 20th of February 1934, viz., "This Council recommends to the Government to formulate a scheme to scale down agricultural debts in proportion to the fall in prices" ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar).*—The resolution was not accepted by the Government for reasons explained in Diwan's Proceedings dated 5th April 1934, No. D.-Dis. 9806/1109, published on pages 632—633 in Part I of the Gazette, dated 7th April 1934.

Land Revenue Assessment—reduction in rates.

38. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*— Adverting to paragraph 8 of the Report of the Economic Depression Relief Measures Enquiry Committee, appointed by the Cochin Government in 1109, and particularly to the passage therein "The supplementary measures proposed by him were reduction of land revenue . . . . . We also agree that unless supplemented by other measures of a substantial character, mere reduction of interest rates may not bring any appreciable relief to the agriculturists", will the Government state:—

(a) how they have justified their suspension of their system of occasional remissions in land revenue as against the said recommendation for a permanent reduction in the rates of our land revenue;

(b) whether they have realised the fact that the prospects of a fall in the land revenue collections, in case the reduction is effected, can very much be minimised by the introduction of a graded system of reduction by which the reduction need be extended to only deserving cadres among our agriculturists?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar).*—(a) No attempt at justification was, or is necessary, because there is no

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inconsistency or even connection between the act of Government referred to and the opinion of the Committee.

(b) Government have no idea of introducing a graded system of reduction such as the one referred to in the question. The answer to the first part of the question does not therefore arise.

Land revenue remission—suspension of.

39. Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*— Will the Government state:—

(a) have the Government taken any note of the passage in para 8 of the Antony Committee Report 'The supplementary measures proposed by him were reduction of land revenue. . . . We also agree that unless supplemented by other measures . . . mere reduction of interest rates may not bring any additional relief to the agriculturists;

(b) if so, why in the face of a demand for a permanent reduction of land tax, they suspended even the remission granted in the previous two years ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar).*—(a) Yes.

(b) The Member is referred to pages 334—341 of the Council Proceedings IV C. L. C. Volume III, Part 3 dated 29th July 1936.

Agricultural indebtedness—relief measures.

40. Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*—Will the Government be pleased to state what they have done to combat the agricultural indebtedness due to 'an increase of 300 per cent of the security of lands in terms of agricultural indebtedness' as admitted in the Diwan's Proceedings, dated 2nd March 1934?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar).*—The Member is referred to the answer to sub-division (a) of Question No. 36.

Town Improvement Committee—Cranganur.

41. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—Will the Government state:—

(a) whether on 15th August 1930 (full 6 years ago) a resolution reading

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